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FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2477
INFO RUEHXP/ALL NATO POST COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE 1842
RUEHTI/AMEMBASSY TIRANA IMMEDIATE 0527
RUEHVB/AMEMBASSY ZAGREB IMMEDIATE 2010
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS THE HAGUE 000072

SIPDIS

EUR/RPM PASS TO KRISTIN CALSON AND FRANK HOLLERAN

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [KTIA](#) [MARR](#) [NATO](#) [PARM](#) [PRELNL](#)

SUBJECT: NETHERLANDS/NATO ENLARGEMENT: EXPECT MID MARCH
DEPOSIT OF INSTRUMENTS

REF: A. STATE 106321

[1B.](#) STATE 07128

[¶1.](#) (U) Summary: The Dutch expect to deposit the ratification for the protocols accession of Albania and Croatia to NATO by mid-March. End Summary.

[¶2.](#) (U) Policy Advisor Anouk Vos, from the Dutch MFA's NATO Affairs Security and Defense Policy Division, confirmed the First Chamber of the Parliament sent a January 28 letter to MFA with formal questions on the protocols. Following this standard procedure, the First Chamber will review the MFA's response and is expected to approve the accession in the second week of February. The documents should be signed by the Queen in mid-February and forwarded to the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Defense for publication. Upon publication, letters will be forwarded for deposit of the instruments with the Department of State by mid-March.

[¶3.](#) (U) Comment/Background: The Dutch are aggressively working through a complex and lengthy process in an effort to complete the deposit quickly. No delays are expected. Potential, but not expected, problems could occur if the First Chamber is forced into a debate following receipt of MFA comments, the signature of the Queen is delayed, or arguments are received upon publication. The Dutch have done a good job anticipating potential issues and taken steps to keep the process moving. End Comment/Background.

GALLAGHER